



ANCIENT IRON PYRAMID STRUCTURE FOUND IN CHINA

On the south bank of a saltwater lake sits a metallic pyramid, said to be between 50 and 60 metres tall. In front of the structure lie three caves, each with triangular openings. The two smaller caves have collapsed, but the largest central cave is still passable. Inside, on the ground, lies a 40-centimetre length of pipe, spliced in half. Another red-brown pipe is sunk into the earth, only its tip visible above the ground.

Outside the cave, half-pipes, pieces of metal and strangely shaped stones are scattered along the southern bank of the lake. Some pipes run into the water. It is unknown what may lurk in the salty depths.

Should this site have been discovered on the outskirts of any of China's urban areas, the story would be about the perils of industrial pollution and its impact on the fragile environment. But this is at the foot of a mountain named Baigong Shan, in a remote corner of Qinghai province, 40 kilometres from the nearest city. Could this—as frenzied speculation in China's press would have it—be the remains of an alien launch pad rumoured to be between 30,000 and 20 million years old?

"The environment is harsh here," says Qin Jianwen, head of the local Delingha government publicity department. "There

are no residents, let alone modern industry—just a few migrant herdsmen to the north of the mountains."

"Unless you see [the relics] with your own eyes, you just wouldn't believe it," says *Lanzhou Morning News* journalist Ye Zhou, who was one of the first journalists on the scene. "It's hard to stick to scientific language when you talk about what's there. There are just all these iron pipes everywhere...it felt very creepy."

The site was first reported in 1998 by a group of US scientists on the trail of dinosaur fossils. The team alerted the local Delingha government to the presence of the structures, but the story went largely ignored until June 2002 when a Henan newspaper reported the findings of the site.

From their base in neighbouring Lanzhou, Ye and his colleagues decided to pick up the story and investigate for themselves, filing six reports detailing the expedition and their ongoing findings.

According to the Xinhua News Agency, results of preliminary rock and metal analysis show the pipes are 30% ferric oxide, with high content of silicon dioxide and calcium oxide; 8% of the sample's make-up was categorised "unidentifiable".

Engineer Liu Shaolin from Xitieshan Smelting Plant, who carried out the analysis, says the levels of silicon dioxide and calcium oxide point to the pipes having

been on the mountainside for a long time—although his estimate was significantly more recent than the US scientists' original theory that the iron was 300,000 years old. Liu found it was 5,000 years old: impressive, considering modern human smelting methods date back a mere 2,000 years.

"The results have made the site even more mysterious," says Qin.

Then again, counters Lanzhou journalist Ye, he would say that. "The Delingha government is billing it as tourist attraction," he says. "There's already a road sign pointing the way to the ET relics, and they've got it in their investment and tourism guides."

Preliminary reports completed, researchers from the Beijing UFO Research Organisation are now planning a more thorough expedition, due to depart in late July.

Qinghai project director Wei Yuguang, recently returned from the site, describes what he found as a wasteland. "The area is totally deserted," he says. "There is no living creature within 500 miles, although beyond that invisible boundary there is rich wildlife. There is no transportation, and the road is very difficult to follow: a car carrying Xinhua journalists ended up stuck in a ditch."

(Source: *City Weekend, China, July 18, 2002, <http://www.cityweekend.com.cn>*)

THE TWILIGHT ZONE

SUBMERGED TEMPLES FOUND OFF TAMIL NADU COAST

For centuries, local fishermen on the coast of Mahabalipuram in India have believed that a Great Flood consumed a city over 10,000 years ago in a single day. This story was recorded by British explorer J. Goldingham, who visited the area in 1798. The legend says there were six temples submerged beneath the water, with the seventh temple still standing on the shore. Author Graham Hancock thinks he's found them.

"I have long regarded Mahabalipuram, because of its flood myths and fishermen's sightings, as a very likely place in which discoveries of underwater structures could be made, and I proposed that a diving expedition should be undertaken there," says Hancock.

He instigated a diving expedition to the area in April 2002, working with the UK Scientific Exploration Society (SES) and India's National Institute of Oceanography.

The SES says: "A joint expedition of 25 divers from the Scientific Exploration Society and India's National Institute of Oceanography, led by Monty Halls and accompanied by Graham Hancock, has discovered an extensive area with a series of structures that clearly show man-made

attributes, at a depth of 16–23 feet offshore of Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu.

"The scale of the submerged ruins, covering several square miles and at distances of up to a mile from shore, ranks this as a major marine-archaeological discovery, as spectacular as the ruined cities submerged off Alexandria in Egypt."

The NIO says: "A team of underwater archaeologists from the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) has successfully unearthed evidence of submerged structures off Mahabalipuram and established first-ever proof of the popular belief that the shore temple of Mahabalipuram is the remnant of a series of a total seven of such temples built that have been submerged in succession. The discovery was made during a joint underwater exploration with the Scientific Exploration Society, UK."

These investigations reveal stone masonry, remains of walls, scattered square and rectangular stone blocks, and a large platform with steps leading up to it. Most of the structures are badly damaged and scattered in a vast area, with barnacles and mussels growing on them. There are two locations, and the construction design and area are about the same at each. One possible dating for the ruins is between 1500 and 1200 BC.

The Pallava dynasty, which ruled the area during this time, constructed many similar temples. Yet archaeologists believe there was no culture in India 6,000 years ago capable of building anything that grand. Could such a culture have been lost during the Great Flood, which is legendary in many different cultures, all over the world?

Hancock says: "I have argued for many years that the world's flood myths deserve to be taken seriously—a view that most Western academics reject. But here in Mahabalipuram, we have proved the myths right and the academics wrong.

"Between 17,000 years ago and 7,000 years ago, at the end of the last Ice Age, terrible things happened to the world our ancestors lived in," Hancock says. "Great ice caps over northern Europe and north America melted down, huge floods ripped across the Earth, sea level rose by more than 325 feet, and about 15 million square miles of formerly habitable lands were swallowed up by the waves."

(Source: *Unknown Country website*, October 24, 2002, <http://www.unknowncountry.com>. See images at <http://www.grahamhancock.com/underworld/mahabalipuram1.php1>)

NASA IMAGES REVEAL 1,750,000-YEAR-OLD MAN-MADE BRIDGE

Space images taken by NASA reveal a mysterious ancient bridge in the Palk Strait between India and Sri Lanka. The recently discovered "bridge", currently named Adam's Bridge, is made of a chain of shoals approximately 30 kilometres long. According to media reports, the bridge's unique curvature and composition by age reveals that it is man-made.

Legends as well as archaeological studies reveal that the first signs of human inhabitants in Sri Lanka date back to a primitive age, about 1,750,000 years ago, and the bridge's age is almost equivalent.

This information is a crucial aspect for an insight into the mysterious legend of the *Ramayana*, which was supposed to have taken place in the *tredha yuga*, more than 1,700,000 years ago.

In this epic, there is mention of a bridge which was built between Rameshwaram (India) and the Sri Lankan coast under the supervision of a dynamic and invincible figure called Rama, who is supposed to be the incarnation of the Supreme.

(Source: *Hindustan Times*, Oct. 10, 2002, <http://www.rense.com/general30/nasa.htm>)



NASA image from <http://images.jsc.nasa.gov/iams/images/earth/STS059/lowres/20143034.jpg>

FORMER CLINTON AIDE CALLS FOR END TO UFO SECRECY

John Podesta, former Clinton White House Chief of Staff, recently spoke out in support of the effort to gain release of still-secret government UFO records.

"It is time for the government to declassify records that are more than 25 years old and to provide scientists with data that will assist in determining the real nature of this phenomenon."

Podesta was a key member of the Clinton administration, which went to great lengths to obtain the answer to the UFO mystery. President Clinton's science adviser Dr John Gibbons, for example, initiated an investigation by the US Air Force into the crash of an unknown object at Roswell, New Mexico. In 1993, Clinton's first CIA Director James Woolsey green-lighted a new CIA investigation into UFOs. Clinton himself asked his good friend Webster Hubbell to find out the truth about UFOs.

Hillary Clinton, also very interested in the UFO phenomenon, helped Laurance Rockefeller edit a letter to President Clinton on UFOs, and was briefed on the UFO subject by Rockefeller at the Rockefeller ranch during the President's 1995 vacation there.

The Podesta statement, announced at the National Press Club in Washington on Tuesday, October 22, was part of an initiative by the Sci-Fi Channel in support of a new effort to gain release of secret government records on unidentified aerial phenomena.

Besides offering up support for disclosure on UFOs, a new FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) initiative was announced, which included mention of the formation of the Coalition for Freedom of Information (CFI). The initiative is not setting out to prove the existence of aliens. Rather, the group wants to legitimise the scientific investigation of unexplained aerial phenomena.

Specifically, the CFI is pressing the Air Force for documents involving Project *Moon Dust* and Operation *Blue Fly*—clandestine operations reported to have existed decades ago to investigate UFOs and retrieve objects of unknown origins.

The CFI director, Ed Rollins, also works for Podesta's public relations firm, Podestamattoon, which is coordinating the new group at the behest of the Sci-Fi Channel. He said the initiative was a call for serious investigation, not a publicity

stunt for the cable network.

"The Sci-Fi Channel has had an interest in [UFOs] for some time. The difference here is that they are focusing attention on the serious, factual side of the issue, and that scientists have not had a chance to thoroughly examine it," Rollins said.

A Pentagon spokesperson could not be reached for comment.

(Sources: Press release by Grant Cameron, <http://www.presidentialufo.com>; CNN.com, October 22, 2002)

DID A UFO PREVENT EVEN WORSE CONSEQUENCES FROM CHERNOBYL DISASTER?

More than 16 years have passed since the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear plant at 1.23 am on April 26, 1986.

Much has been written about the Chernobyl disaster, both in Russia and abroad. It seems that the physical nature of the tragedy has been determined and the people responsible for it identified.

The fourth power-generating unit was supposed to have been repaired. Yet, before shutting it down, the plant's administrators decided to perform several experiments. Steam delivery was cut to one of the turbogenerators in order to discover the period of time that electric power would still be generated due to the rotation of the rotor. The experiment was not well-organised.

Furthermore, there was another test conducted simultaneously on the study of

turbine vibration. They started decreasing the capacity of the generating unit at 1.00 am on April 25. The emergency cooling system of the reactor was shut down at 2.00 pm; this was supposed to stop the reactor.

However, the Kievenergo energy company did not know anything about these tests. An energy control officer did not allow the plant's fourth generating unit to be stopped. These were the prerequisites of the tragedy. Many people are still suffering.

The explosion was very large, but luckily it was only a thermal blast. The fourth power-generating unit was basically destroyed by overheated steam. There was no nuclear explosion. Roughly 180 tons of enriched uranium were in the reactor. Had a large blast happened, half of Europe would not currently be depicted on any maps.

There are many theories to explain such luck. One of the theories is that there was help from a UFO. Some people say that when troublesome events started to occur, they saw a spaceship hovering above the fourth generating unit of the Chernobyl plant.

Eyewitnesses say that a UFO was there for six hours and that hundreds of people saw it. People started writing about it only two years after the catastrophe.

Of course, such information appeared only in magazines on ufology. As generally believed, serious people don't read such magazines and journals.

(Source: Pravda, September 16, 2002, <http://english.pravda.ru>)

